



# Fall Classes 2025



Wed, Sept 3, 10, 17 & 24, 6:30-8:30pm CT via Zoom

## ***Exploring Japan: Inspiration from International Poets with Veronica Golos***

Nonmember: \$200; Member: \$170; Student/Educ/Mil: \$140

Join master poetry teacher Veronica Golos on an international poetry tour. Next stop: Japan! In this four-week generative poetry workshop, we will read, discuss deeply, and draw our inspiration from foundational poets Kobayashi Issa, Izumi Shikibu, Yuki Tanaka, and Shizuka Omori. We will explore each poet's craft tools and apply these techniques to our work.

Participants will receive a packet with poems and suggestions

for developing their writing.

**VERONICA GOLOS** is the author of four poetry books: *GIRL*, awarded the Naji Naaman Honor Prize in 2019; *Rootwork*, winner of the 2016 Southwest Book Design Award in Poetry; *Vocabulary of Silence*, a 2011 New Mexico Book Award winner; and *A Bell Buried Deep*, a Nicholas Roerich Poetry Prize winner. She teaches poetry for Hugo House, Gemini Ink, and SOMOS. She lives in Taos, New Mexico with her husband, David Pérez.

Mon, Sept 15, 22, 29 & Oct 6, 6:30-8:30 pm CT

Hybrid (in-person at Gemini Ink or online via Zoom)

## ***YA 4U: Young Adult Writing with Gume Laurel***

Nonmember: \$200; Member: \$170; Student/Educ/Mil: \$140

Have you always wanted to write YA but thought you were too old to connect with young readers? Learn to write YA from a place of lived experience! In this four-session workshop series, Junior Library Guild Gold Standard author, Gume Laurel III, will share personal insight into YA novel writing. We'll start by exploring our own young adult experiences, so we can write from a place of familiarity. Students will leave class with at least one rough draft of a YA flash fiction story.

**GUME LAUREL** is a Texan, native to the Rio Grande Valley. He is dedicated to crafting literary works that showcases diverse characters with intersectional identities, especially highlighting Latine, Chicanx and queer characters. His first hi-lo verse novel, *Samson & Domingo* (West 44 Books), received Honorable Mention for Best in LGBTQ+ Themed Book from the International Latino Book Awards. His most recently published hi-lo verse novel, *Solar Punks*, is a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard selection.



Wed, Sept 17, 24 & Oct 1, 8, 22, 29

6:30-8:30pm CT via Zoom

## ***Short and to the Point: Writing Microfiction with Lyzette Wanzer***

Nonmember: \$300; Member: \$255; Student/Educ/Mil: \$210

Learn the art of microfiction! In this six-session workshop, writers will discover the key to successful microfiction—a well-defined character and plot compressed into an impactful short story. We'll expand our ability to convey complex ideas without sacrificing the story's punch. Students will write and revise a story of 300 words or less. This is an intermediate-level workshop. Prior writing experience is required.

**LYZETTE WANZER** is a San Francisco-based writer, editor, and workshop instructor with an MFA from Mills College. A flash fiction and essay specialist, her work appears in *Callaloo*, *Los Angeles Review*, *Pleiades*, *The MacGuffin*, and *Flashquake*. She's contributed to multiple anthologies, including *Lyric Essay as Resistance*, and judges nonfiction contests for the Soul-Making Keats Competition and Women's National Book Association. She presents at conferences such as AWP, CEA, and the San Francisco Writers Conference.



## ***LITERARY MASTERS LECTURE SERIES***

Sat, Oct 4 & 11, 10-11:30am CT via Zoom

## ***Twists, Turns, & Call-backs: How to Shape Your Story with Marcela Fuentes***

Nonmember: \$90; Member: \$75; Student/Educ/Mil: \$63

Want to learn how to strategically use story shapes to create dynamic arcs and a satisfying plot that your reader can't stop reading? Join us for this Literary Masters Lecture! Each session features an engaging craft talk, actionable writing strategies, and a live Q&A with the author. In this two-part lecture, we'll learn how to pick an excellent shape for your story, create a strong opening, and evoke striking images.

**MARCELA FUENTES** is an award-winning fiction writer and essayist from Del Rio, Texas. Her debut novel *Malas* won the Texas Institute of Letters First Fiction Prize and the National Cowboy Museum & Western Heritage Award for Outstanding Western Novel. The book was longlisted for the Center For Fiction's First Novel Prize and was featured in *The New York Times* and *Washington Post*, among others. *Malas* was Good Morning America Book Club's pick for June 2024.



Tues, Oct 7, 14, & 21, 6-8pm CT, via Zoom

## ***Deep Revision with Katey Schultz***

Nonmember: \$150; Member: \$129; Student/Educ/Mil: \$105

Give your written work a power boost and learn to revise like a pro. This three-session workshop empowers writers with revision techniques for memoir, essays, flash, short stories, or novels. Whether trying to revise a stand-alone chapter or considering your full manuscript, these techniques are graspable and effective. We'll cover these types of revision: thematic, developmental, sentence-level, and structural. You'll practice each technique using excerpts from your own work. For intermediate and advanced writers.

**KATEY SCHULTZ** is the author of *Flashes of War* and *Still Come Home*, both published by Loyola University Maryland. Her honors include North Carolina's Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction, the Linda Flowers Literary Award, Doris Betts Fiction Prize, Foreword INDIES Book of the Year, along with numerous other awards and nominations. She's taught all over the country and founded Maximum Impact, a transformative mentoring service for creative writers recognized by CNBC.



Tue, Oct 7, 14, & 21, 6-9pm CT, via Zoom

## ***Introduction to Playwriting with Mikaela Simon***

Nonmember: \$225; Member: \$194; Student/Educ/Mil: \$158

How do you tell a story on the page that comes to life on the stage? Join New Jersey-based playwright Mikaela Simon in this three-session course which covers the fundamentals of playwriting. Participants will learn how playwriting differs from other genres, what "show don't tell" means, and how to create dynamic storytelling. We'll examine structure, format, dialogue, monologues, characters, dramatic action, and theatricality. Participants will create their own short plays and/or scenes.

**MIKAELA SIMON** (she/her) is a multi-disciplinary artist based in Jersey City, NJ. She graduated in 2019 from Drew University with a BA in Theatre Arts. Mikaela's work was performed a number of times in the Plays in Process series, and she was also a recipient of the Robert Fisher Oxnam Award for Playwriting in 2018. She is a teaching artist for the theatre program at Yavneh Academy in Paramus, NJ.



Sat, Nov 1 & 15, 10am-12:30pm CT

Hybrid (in-person at Gemini Ink or online via Zoom)

## ***Get to "The End" in Style: A Prose Workshop with Guadalupe Garcia McCall***

Nonmember: \$125; Member: \$108; Student/Educ/Mil: \$88

Are you stuck trying to finish a great story? In this generative two-session workshop, participants will use various modes, structures, and forms of writing to enhance their stories and, in turn, their own writing process. We will also explore Sequence and Sequel and the cause and effect of a scene—two intimately connected elements that impact our characters, motivations, and plot. Students will apply these concepts to their own writing in class.

**GUADALUPE GARCÍA MCCALL** is the national bestselling, award-winning author of several young adult novels, short stories, and poems. She received the Pura Belpré Author Award and the Westchester Young Adult Fiction Award, among many others. She's an Affiliate Faculty in the MFA Creative Writing program at Antioch University LA. She is working on the *Seasons of Sisterhood* series of three YA novels. The first in the series, *Spring of the Cicadas*, is coming in October 2025!

## ***LITERARY MASTERS LECTURE SERIES***

Thu, Nov 13 & 20, 6:30-8pm CT via Zoom

## ***Writing in the Land with Emmy Pérez***

Nonmember: \$90; Member: \$75; Student/Educ/Mil: \$63

In this two-part lecture, led by 2020 Texas Poet Laureate Emmy Pérez, we will discuss poems, songs, and prose that center the land and our connections to places and the environment. We will use these discussions and short writing activities to examine nature through a creative lens, integrate historical and cultural contexts, and encourage an eco-justice approach to the writing. We will leave the lecture with research plans to explore a place of personal interest.

**EMMY PÉREZ**, Texas Poet Laureate 2020, is the author of *Solstice*, *With the River on Our Face*, and the forthcoming *Boxes with Zero Tolerance*, and *Paper america: New and Selected Poems*. She is a recipient of fellowships from the Academy of American Poets, United States Artists, the National Endowment for the Arts, and CantoMundo. She is a professor at UTRGV, where she also serves as chair of the Department of Creative Writing.



Sat, Dec 13, 10am-1pm CT via Zoom

## ***Poetry as Praise with Amanda Johnston***

Nonmember: \$75; Member: \$65; Student/Educ/Mil: \$53

Honor that special someone, a major milestone, or that first sip of coffee with a praise poem! Poetry connects us to our shared human experience. Praise poems give writers a vessel to carry gratitude and deliver loving messages to their community. In this one-day workshop led by Texas Poet Laureate Emeritus Amanda Johnston, participants will explore poetic forms of praise, identify and celebrate the everyday moments, and craft new works that can be given as gifts.

**AMANDA JOHNSTON** is a writer, visual artist, and the 61st Poet Laureate of Texas. She is the author of *Another Way to Say Enter* and editor of *Praisesong for the People* (Fall 2025). Her work appears in *Poetry Magazine*, *Callaloo*, and *The Rumpus*. A Cave Canem fellow and founder of Torch Literary Arts, she has received support from Hedgebrook, the Kentucky Foundation for Women, and others. She holds an MFA from the University of Southern Maine.



*Sign up  
for a class!*



*Scholarships  
available*